

SPORTS

OLYMPIC SEMINAR

Over a hundred young instructors, coaches and experts in physical education and sport from 37 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have arrived in Moscow for the International "Olympic solidarity" seminar now taking place at the State Physical Education Institute. They came to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Olympic Committee and the USSR Sports Committee.

Like my colleagues I was glad to receive an invitation to the USSR said Colombian gymnastics coach Victor Montoya. It seems to me that it was only recently that I was competing myself. I dreamt of being a well-known Soviet sportsman in the flesh and to learn from their brilliant masters — and here I am now in Moscow.

The participants in the seminar will tour lecture by noted experts and coaches, meet with Olympic and world champions and attend practicals in the way they will benefit from the Soviet experience in the development of physical education and sport.

Your country demonstrates Olympic solidarity, primarily with those nations, who have recently won their independence. Montoya pointed out. Here in Moscow we have become still more convinced that sport furthers the interests of peace, friendship and solidarity among nations. I am sure the seminar will help promote the Olympic ideals, he emphasized.

The seminar will end on February 7.



Alexander Romanov and leader Alexander Shapin establish a record in the 100 km pursuit race. Photo by Yuri Turov

HIGH SPEEDS AT KRYLATSKOYE

The 4 km pursuit race at the national winter cycling championship at the Krylatskoye Olympic track was a closely contested event. The winning quartet of Olympic champion Valery Moshchun, world and national leftist Konstantin Kharibsov and promising Alexander Petrov and Marat Ganeyev from the sports clubs team made good time, clocking 4 min 18.64 sec. Second-placed Leningrad Physical Education Institute team, which fielded two Olympic champions, Viktor Manakov and Alexander Krasnov, clocked 4:20.161. Latvia took the bronze medals.

The keen competition in this track event makes us hopeful that the USSR has a good chance of retaining its world title.

A new world record of 1 hr 04.400 sec was set by Alexander Romanov and leader Alexander Shapin in the 100 km pursuit race. In the process they surpassed world records in the 50 km race (37.21.314) and in the hour's time trial (80 km 424 m).

The seminar will end on February 7.



MEETING IN LOS ANGELES

The Moscow Olympics was splendidly organized and a great success, I reckon it was the best Olympics yet. It is unlikely that we will be as successful for we face several major problems. We have, nevertheless, to comply with the Olympic Charter rules Peter V. Ueberroth, chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 1984 Summer Olympics, told a group of Soviet correspondents, who put several questions to him following a meeting in Los Angeles of the heads of the Olympic movement.

Austrian 'strangers' triumph

Austria triumphed at the weekend in the world Alpine skiing cup. On January 28 little-known Gerhard Pralleinbichler won the downhill in Sarajevo, capital of the 1984 Winter Olympics; the following day the winner at Kranjska Gora was Hans Enz, and the equally little-known

expected to repeat his last year's successes, fell on a steep led-over course.

Peter Mueller, of Switzerland, leads the overall cup standings with 123 points, his compatriot Urim Zurbigen is second with 114 points and Stenmark is third with 102 points. Phil Mahre has moved to fifth place with 85 points.

Austrian Franz Gruber took the slalom.

Gruber's success is all the

more significant for in the first

run such as Sweden Ingemar

Stenmark, and winner of the past

two world cups American Phil

Mahre as well as Yugoslav Bojan

Krizel, whom his compatriots

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FLYING DUTCHMEN IN THE LEAD

On January 29-30, The Hague was the venue of the 7th European Speedskating Championship. The weather conditions were far from charitable, with the effects of the driving wind, rain, snow and rapid changes in temperature being particularly felt in the 10,000-metre race.

The title of absolute champion was won by G. van der Duin of Holland. J. Kramer, also of Holland, came second, and B. Nyland of Norway third.

The championship was contested by three Soviet skaters —

Dmitriy Bokharyov, Viktor Slobodin and Alexander Batanov. In the all round event, Batanov came seventh. Bokharyov, 31, is the youngest member of the Soviet team and winner of the second prize in the last year's world championships, was less disappointed, as he fell almost at once dropped out of the all-round event in the 500-metre race. This was remedied by his being the runner-up in the 1,500- and 5,000-metre events.

VICTORY FOR SOVIET WRESTLERS

The USSR took eight of the ten divisions at the recent international tournament in Tbilisi.

Taking part were around 200 wrestlers from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania, the USA,

Poland, Czechoslovakia and the USSR.

Valentin Jordanov, of Bulgaria, took the 42 kg division and Andrey Reznik, of the USA, defeated 1976 Olympic champion Sayfulla Akhmedov in the 68 kg division final.

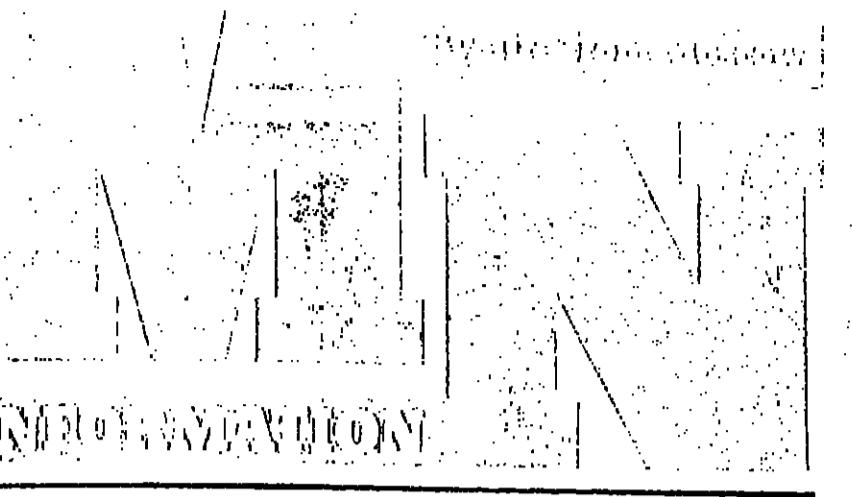
Yuri Andropov's reply to a "Pravda" correspondent have attracted attention from political, state and public figures in Western Europe and other parts of the globe. Many are critical of the stand adopted by the Reagan administration at the Geneva talks and of its insistence on the clearly unacceptable "zero option".

Member of the presidium of the Social Democratic Party of Germany E. Bahr criticized West German Chancellor H. Kohl for his support for the "zero option". The chancellor must realize, he stressed, that this "zero option", in the form it is being offered by Washington, is blocking progress in Geneva. To give Europe stability West German policy should insist on flexibility and demand it not only of the Soviet Union but also of the United States. Kohl's indecisive position, he continued, is damaging West Germany's authority.

Former chief US negotiator at the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation talks, G. Smith, stressed that the American administration is more interested in boosting armaments than cutting back nuclear weapons. In the White House, he said, there is not one person having the requisite knowledge and ability or even showing an interest in making sure the talks are a success.

It is my personal belief that

Yuri Andropov's latest proposals point the way towards concrete



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USSR'S REALISTIC POSITION

decisions in the area of nuclear weapon to a far greater degree than is true of the president's "zero option", claimed P. Danckert, of Holland, Chairman of the European Parliament.

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A meeting at the Square of Fallen Fighters commemorating the victory of the Soviet people at the Battle of Stalingrad.

The scene at the Mamayev Mound with its memorial to the defenders of the Volga stronghold.

AFRICA STABBED IN THE BACK

Paris. The Kinshasa-Tel Aviv axis: a knife in Africa's back, is the title of a recent article by Francois Emery Lumumba, son of Patrice Lumumba, in the Paris-based "Afrique-Afrique" magazine.

It is amply clear that this alliance is lethal for the African

40th anniversary of Battle of Stalingrad

40 years ago the Soviet Army routed the fascist troops at Stalingrad, a victory which was a critical turning point not just for the Great Patriotic War but for the whole of World War II. It spurred on the massive exodus of fascist troops from the USSR. The Battle of Stalingrad determined in large measure the fate of the European peoples and clinched the struggle between the forces of progress and fascist reaction.

Thousands of residents of the hero-city on the Volga and their guests attended the recent festivities marking the anniversary of the Battle. Among those who gathered at Stalingrad were former comrades-in-arms who fought in the Battle, noted army commanders, representatives from other Soviet hero-cities and from foreign twin cities. Writers, poets, artists and composers read, presented and performed the works they had specially done "The Battle of Stalingrad" was opened in the city.

PROBLEM OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE

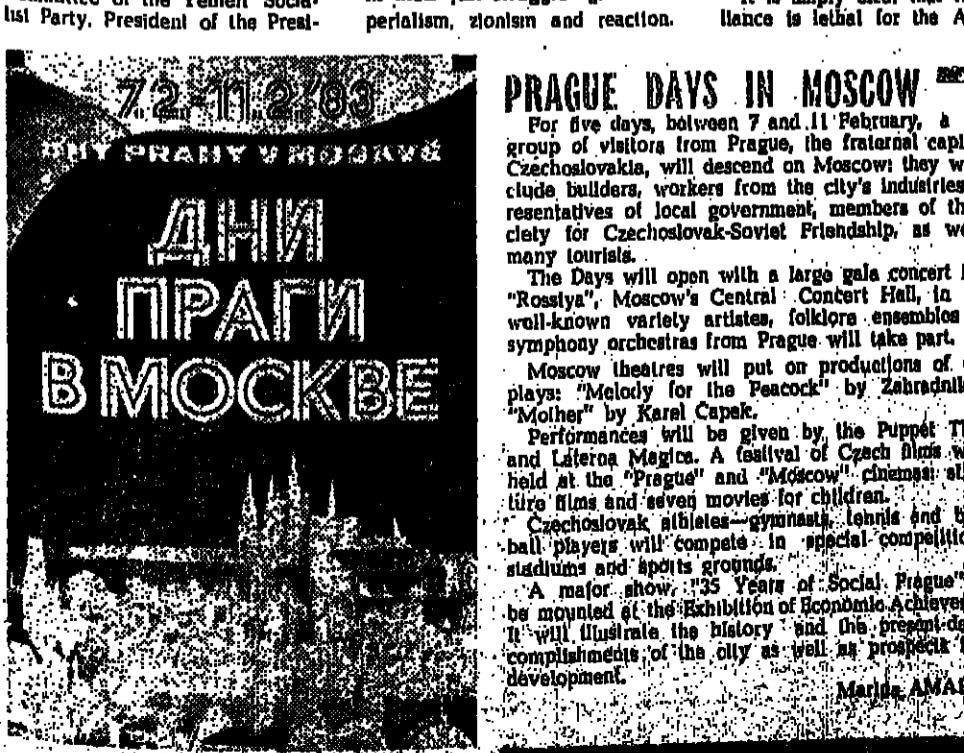
New York. The transition to independence in Namibia is a problem of primary importance for the international community of nations, and the UN will do all it can to speed up talks on the issue, said UN Secretary-General J. Perez de Cuellar. He stressed that according to the UN, there can be no link between the granting of independence to Namibia and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. The Namibian problem, he concluded, should be settled on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution No. 435.

Meeting between foreign girl-students

More than a hundred girls from abroad—students at Soviet higher and secondary specialized educational establishments, drawn from 62 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as from Cyprus, met in Moscow at the Soviet Women's Committee.

Future teachers, doctors, lawyers, engineers and economists, they are the holders of scholarships granted by the Committee, which, in accordance with tradition, arranged a seminar for them during the winter holidays. The girls listened to lectures about how the women's question was solved in the multinational Soviet state about the history of the international democratic women's movement, and about the role of women today in the modern struggle for peace.

The preparation of national cadres for developing countries is one of the most important tasks in our work, said Zinida Ryndorova, executive Secretary of the Soviet Women's Committee. Almost twenty years have passed since the first girl from Africa was given the opportunity of coming to study in the USSR, receiving scholarship from the Committee. Scholarship-holders have the opportunity of traveling in the republics of the Soviet Union and of familiarizing themselves with the living and social conditions experienced by Soviet women.



PRAGUE DAYS IN MOSCOW

For five days, between 7 and 11 February, a large group of visitors from Prague, the fraternal capital of Czechoslovakia, will descend on Moscow; they will include builders, workers from the city's industries, representatives of local government, members of the Society for Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship, as well as many tourists.

The Days will open with a large gala concert in the "Russia", Moscow's Central Concert Hall, in which well-known variety artists, folkloric ensembles and symphony orchestras from Prague will take part.

Moscow theatres will put on productions of Czech plays: "Melody for the Peacock" by Zdenek Nejedlik and "Mother" by Karel Capek.

Performances will be given by the Puppet Theatre and Laterna Magica. A festival of Czech films will be held at the "Prague" and "Moscow" cinemas; art feature films and seven movies for children.

Czechoslovak athletes—gymnasts, tennis and basketball players will compete in special competitions at stadiums and sports grounds.

A major show, "35 Years of Socialist Prague", will be mounted at the Exhibition of Economic Achievements. It will illustrate the history and the present-day accomplishments of the city as well as prospects for its development.

Maria A. MAROVA

THE WORLD

IN DEFENCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Delhi The Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi, speaking at a mass rally in the Indian capital, pointed out that certain powers are redoubling their efforts to weaken the non-aligned movement and to split its ranks. The evidence of this is that recently the Western mass media has begun a propaganda campaign directed against India and the policies of its government, said Mrs Gandhi. Such hostile actions are directed at

undermining the India's authority before the 7th Conference of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries which opens in Delhi in the beginning of March and to thwart its work. The head of the Indian government expressed firm confidence that despite all the attempts to prevent the forthcoming forum from taking place, it will go on successfully, and will promote the strengthening of the positions of the non-aligned movement.

Israel must get out of Lebanon, says AAPSO

Cairo A statement by the permanent secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) has demanded the immediate cessation of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the withdrawal of the occupation forces, and the preservation of the independence and territorial integrity of that country. The statement emphasizes that following the large-scale aggression and mass crimes committed against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, Tel Aviv has started to expand its operations

deep into the country. Despite the international outcry, UN Security Council decisions and demands by all people of goodwill, Israel still keeps a large military contingent in Lebanon, which continues to perpetrate terror and violence.

AAPSO urges peace-loving forces throughout the world to launch a widespread campaign in support of the people of Lebanon, and declares its solidarity with the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine and its support for the creation of an independent Palestinian state.



This is a guarantee of complete security and freedom.
Drawing by Konstantin Rybalko

Vietnamese proposal rejected by China

Hanoi The government of Vietnam has decided to take unilateral measures to secure peace along the Vietnamese-Chinese border during the traditional celebrations of the New Year according to the lunar calendar.

Thus reads a statement distributed in Hanoi by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. On January 17, it is noted in the statement, Vietnam suggested to China that all armed action

along the border between the two countries be brought to an end over the period between 5 and 19 February 1983 for the purpose of enabling the inhabitants of the border districts to celebrate the New Year according to the lunar calendar in a peaceful atmosphere. Unfortunately, China has not accepted Vietnam's constructive proposal which testifies to its unwillingness to relax tension along the border.

NATO SHOULD WORK FOR AGREEMENT

London The nuclear arms race should be halted, otherwise it can spell out disaster for mankind. Nothing is as important as the prevention of nuclear war and ensuring the security of the future generations. Such is the conclusion of a book, recently published by a group of noted Cambridge University scholars — Nobel Prize Winner M. Ryle, D. Barber, P. Bateon, and others.

The authors are convinced that the North Atlantic Alliance as a whole should not include any new nuclear weapons in their arsenals, primarily Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles, and neutron warheads for the Lance missile. They charged that NATO should try to reach agreement with the Warsaw Treaty member-countries on the non-first use of nuclear weapons and on the creation of a nuclear-free zone in Europe.

Igor DANILIN

DANGEROUS TRIANGLE



In marking the beginning of 1983 by the setting up of the Central Military Command (Cenicom) with responsibility for a region including 19 countries of the Indian Ocean basin and the Persian Gulf, Washington has implemented only one part of its so-called new Asian strategy.

The second part of its doctrine which relies chiefly on force is now being carried out, i.e., the bolstering of American positions in East Asia through the creation of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle.

How that America has quit Vietnam, Western Europe and South Korea are the frontline defence zone, as declared back in 1973 by the then US Defense Secretary J. Schlesinger. Deployed in Indochina, the United States has taken to viewing South Korea as its beachhead in East Asia. Here it has a 40,000-strong expeditionary corps, in addition to nuclear stockpiles (around 700 types of nuclear ammunition of varying power, among them bombs, mines, shells and missile warheads). In fact the US command is also in

charge of the 600,000-strong South Korean army. Since 1976 the Americans and South Koreans have been staging joint war games codenamed Team Spirit.

The critical importance that Washington attaches to the puppet regime in Seoul is shown by the fact that on coming into office Ronald Reagan chose Seoul dictator Chun Doo Hwan to be the first of his high-placed foreign guests, promising him billions of dollars worth of military supplies. And to top this, Reagan assured his visitor that Tokyo would shoulder the burden of keeping the anti-popular regime in South Korea in power.

It took two years, however, for this promise to materialize.

The then Japanese government of T. Suzuki used all pretexts to resist Seoul's demand for no less than 6,000 million dollars for the protection of the "free world". The Japanese government, under pressure of adverse repercussions in case of an infringement of the country's peaceful constitution banning military activity outside the nation's defensive framework, for the same reason Japan refused to cave in to

Japan's demands for overt military collaboration between Tokyo and Seoul.

The Japanese position under-

went a radical change when Y. Nakasone's cabinet came into power. Prior to his Washington visit the new premier went to Seoul where he signed an agreement providing Chun Doo Hwan with 4,000 million dollars—and this proved not to be his only "present". Before that he had yielded to American demands for Japan to raise its military expenditure [which is to go up by 6.5 per cent in the 1983 fiscal year] and agreed to supply the United States with the latest military technology.

During his stay in America the Japanese prime minister made no bones about setting out his credo in an interview with "The Washington Post". I personally believe, he claimed, that the whole of Japan should resemble an unshakable aircraft carrier.

American-Japanese military cooperation already envisages the establishment of Japanese law and order within a 1,000-mile zone off Japan's shores. Having once steeled its military muscle, Japanese militarism might well want to avenge the failure of its planes in World War II — is the well-justified opinion of many South-East Asian leaders.

The Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military triangle doubtlessly poses a threat for the whole of Asia.

The mancouvering and provocative nature of the games forced the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to place its entire army, as well as the people's security services and militia on full combat alert.

The triple military alliance in the Far East is spearheaded not just against the "Soviet threat", as is being trumpeted by its organizers. Nakasone sees participation in it as a means of creating a strong Japanese army and obtaining for Japan a status similar to that of the NATO countries. Nakasone is opposed to Article 9 of the present Japanese constitution renouncing the creation of armed forces or war as a means of settling international disputes. It was not for nothing, fresh in office, that he visited the Yasukuni Shrine, the prime symbol of Japanese chauvinism and militarism.

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SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE HANDS IN CREDENTIALS

Paris This is an ideal opportunity of drawing attention to the friendship between our two countries which started long time ago, as well as to the special importance I attach to relations between the USSR and France, said French President Francois Mitterrand, addressing a ceremony in the Elysee Palace at which Yu. Vorontsov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in France handed in his credentials. Among other things, the President expressed the wish that economic and cultural relations between the two countries be expanded and reach a still higher level.

There exist numerous questions of common interest which could be approached in a more positive spirit, he said. Among these, I place first and foremost the protection of peace and security in our two countries. Therefore, I hope that the Geneva talks be completed successfully and that a disarmament conference in Europe be called.

Over the first eleven months of the past year, the United States' deficit in trade with Japan ran into 18 thousand million dollars, the Kyodo news agency reports.

Australia's population stood at 15,173,000 as of June 30, 1982, 248,000 increase over a year's time.

The main police department in Japan has issued crime statistics for the past year. 1982 was a record high in this respect after 1948 and 1949, with 1,392 various crimes, omitting those committed on the roads.

Allocations for the British police are to go up by almost 300 million.

The Conservatives plan to cut government spending on the development of industry, power engineering, and on the creation of jobs by 8.5 per cent. Allocations for education, science and the arts are to be reduced by 5.4 per cent.

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NICARAGUA GIVES SHORT SHrift TO TERRORISTS

Managua State Security agencies in Nicaragua have put out of action a gang of CIA-trained terrorists who were operating in the Nicaraguan capital. They had CIA instructions to organize a series of acts of sabotage and terrorism and also to conduct subversive propaganda.

As was stated at a press conference here by L. Serra, chief of the state security department, in December last year, the counter-revolutionaries made an attempt on the lives of the Nicaraguan leaders by detonating a bomb under the review stand on 19 July Square where the closing ceremony of a national youth meeting was due to take place. The attempt failed because the meeting was held in another place.

Six terrorists were arrested. Weapons and explosives of American manufacture were found in their possession. The bombs were filled with special explosives invented and manufactured by the CIA. Having a tremendous destructive power, they are specially designed for terrorist action. The military equipment seized from the terrorists is identical to that used by the United States in Vietnam and to that delivered to the counter-revolutionary groups in Angola and Ethiopia.

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Photo AP-TASS

THE WORLD

FACTS and EVENTS

The Pentagon is carrying on with intensive construction work on another American military advanced post in the area of al-Khasab in the strategically vital Peninsula of Musandam which belongs to the Sultanate of Oman, France-Presse news agency reports. Motorways, a berth for ships and a landing strip have been built here for use by the Pentagon. Other installations are under construction which will make it possible to receive rapid deployment force troops at the base and to service military hardware there.

Algeria and Niger have signed an agreement defining the 600-mile border strip separating the two countries. Before this agreement, the border was an imaginary line passing through the desert.

In 1982 there was a 7.2 per cent fall in car sales in the United States as compared with 1981.

EEC statistics puts the unemployment rate in all Common Market countries (excluding Greece) at 12 million.

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HOME NEWS

Round the Soviet Union

MANUFACTURE OF SEAMLESS PIPES FROM A NEW GRADE OF STEEL HAS BEEN STARTED AT THE RUSTAVI METAL WORKS IN GEORGIA. The parts made from this steel do not require any additional thermal treatment and are three times as strong as their predecessors. The first batch of these pipes has been shipped to the oil fields in Azerbaijan.

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED OF THE ANDIZHAN RESERVOIR IN UZBEKISTAN (CENTRAL ASIA). It has a capacity of one thousand 900 million cu m of water. In the present five-year plan period which ends in 1985, Uzbekistan intends to complete the construction of major water reservoirs in the Kashkadarya, Kheram and Buxkara regions, which will make it possible to accelerate the rate of reclamation of new tracts of land.

ALL THE COLOURS OF SUNNY BULGARIA ARE REFLECTED IN THE WORKS BY FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHERS FROM NORTH OSETIA, WHICH ARE ON DISPLAY IN THE ORDZHONIKIDZE, THE CAPITAL OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC. The exhibition is dedicated to the 20th anniversary since the establishment of fraternal ties between the North Osetian Autonomous Republic, which lies in Northern Caucasus, and the Kyrgyz district in the People's Republic.

A MANY-KILOMETRE-LONG WATER-SUPPLY LINE, COMPLETE WITH POWERFUL PUMPING STATIONS, TO LIFT WATER TO A HEIGHT OF FIVE HUNDRED METRES HAS GONE INTO OPERATION AT THE FOOT OF THE GREAT CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS. From there, it will branch out in three directions to vineyards at specialized farms. The line will ensure a constant supply of water for the irrigation of ten thousand hectares of land. Over the past few years nearly 300 small water reservoirs with irrigation canal networks have been built on the farms of Azerbaijan.



Young painters at work in Leningrad's Palace of Culture.

LENINGRAD'S PALACE OF CULTURE

Eight thousand Leningraders go every night after work or their studies to the Gorky Palace of Culture to listen to concerts, to take part in contests and to meet with interesting personalities.

The Square of Stripes in which the Palace is situated often serves as the starting point for tours of places connected with the heroic siege of Leningrad during World War II. The front line was only several kilometres away from the square. It was at the Palace that citizens' defence units were formed and from here amateur concert groups left for the front. During the first (1941) winter of the siege when the daily ration was 125 grammes of bread, the Palace workers ar-

ranged a New Year party for the children who remained in the city...

More than twenty amateur groups now rehearse at the Palace of Culture. A children's ballet company, the only one in this country, is the most popular of the Palace's amateur groups.

Over three thousand boys and girls have studied choreography here. The "Little Stork", a ballet staged by the Bolshoi director Yuri Grigorovich, has been performed by the company for a number of years. As for the Palace's adult people's ballet company—It is known even abroad following its tours of the GDR, Hungary, Sweden, Japan and Cuba.

FAR EASTERN RESOURCES

One more mineral has been found in the zone of the Baikal-Amur Railway. The first deposit of zeolites has been plotted on the geological map.

The newly discovered stocks of the mineral present a real treasure trove. They are par-

ticularly valuable since agricultural complexes are going to be set up in the railway area. Zeolites are important carriers of the microelements needed in the manufacture of mineral fertilizers and effervescent additives for stock and poultry breeding.

The Baikal-Amur Railway area is revealing increasing quantities of its riches. Substantial deposits of complex ores for producing potassium fertilizers and sulphuric acid, as well as phosphate-carbonate ores have also been discovered here. The Far Eastern Agricultural Research Institute has already tested them as fertilizer.

approach to the problem, however, has been found to be inadequate and engineers need to supplement their knowledge by psychology. This is the opinion of Al. Kostik, head of the department of logic and psychology at Tartu University in Estonia, writing in *IZVESTIA*. Psychological advice is needed to make a technology more "human", so to say, or to make it possible to tailor a certain piece of equipment to a particular worker. This problem is now being jointly studied by engineers, psychologists and human engineers. Another approach towards the same problem also needs psychological knowledge. It is better adapt man to available equipment by improving, for instance, existing training methods. The aim, in both cases, is to save a human operator from making blunders or other mistakes causing hazards.

The best way of preventing new blunders is to study the psychological causes of the old ones.

This is why for the past ten years students at the faculty of psychology at Tartu University have received instruction in psychological safety at work. University staff have been researching into the problem in many industries in Estonia. In civil engineering, mining, and road traffic.

The human characteristics which define a man's immunity to the negative impact of industry and his vulnerability have been studied for some time. Tests and diagnostic procedures to help find the right person for the right job are now being developed.

TV AS AN ARTS LAB

What role does television play in revealing the process of artisanship? Below the well-known Leninград composer, Andrey Petrov, answers this question put to him by a *PRAVDA* correspondent.

Television influences our tastes, habits, style of dress, behaviour, our way of life. In the broadest sense, says Petrov, TV cameras can transport us into an artistically creative and spiritual world. This is what happens at

SIBERIAN PIPELINE SATELLITE

Builders in Mordovia, in the Russian Federation, have started preparing the route for the Urengoy-Velets gas pipeline. They have welded their one thousand long large-diameter section.

The new route will be laid in immediate proximity to the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzghorod export gas pipeline in the so-called "single corridor". This will result in a lot of economies: including roads for hauling pipes, equipment and materials.

Major savings will also be achieved by making use of the construction facilities already available — welding grounds, living accommodation for the workers, etc.

CASPION EXPERIENCE IN OIL DRILLING

The drilling of the deepest oil well (6,000 m) has begun in the mid-Caspian Sea area.

There are twenty two oil and gas deposits in the Caspian Sea, 14 of which are being intensely exploited. The combination of floating and stationary platforms provides for more efficient prospecting on the continental shelf.

Mobile derricks allow drilling at depths of 6,500 m through 200 m layers of the sea. Not so long ago a steel islet was required for every borehole; today multilayer platform makes it possible to drill 24 wells at once.

Oil and gas production at sea has become a leading industry in Azerbaijan, providing two-thirds of its oil and over 90 per cent of gas. The Caspian experience is being made use of in the fields of the Black, Baltic, Okhotsk and Barents seas.

HOME NEWS

Science and technology

ATLAS OF MONGOLIA

Work is nearing completion on a national atlas of the Mongolian People's Republic. It is being compiled by the Academy of Sciences of the MPR and the Institute of Geography of Siberia and the Far East of the Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The atlas, which makes use of the extensive material collected by Soviet and Mongolian geologists over many years of exploration, will feature data about the MPR's natural resources, including minerals, and its natural and climatic conditions.

The Mongolian and Soviet scientists involved plan to complete the atlas in time for the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of the MPR next year.

MICROBES AS 'MINERS'

Mendeleev's theory that coal can be extracted by being turned into gas underground has given scientists the idea of using anaerobic bacteria as "miners". These organisms which exist without oxygen can live on the methane with which the deep coal seams are saturated. The microorganisms penetrate the seams and turn the coal into a mass of small particles which can be lifted in planes. The most valuable grades of coal in terms of chemical composition lie at considerable depth. Yet, to extract them from below 1,000-1,200 metres is neither easy nor safe—one reason why scientists are looking for alternative methods of access to these deposits.

The laser is the result of thirty years of research into laser technology. Over that time Lithuanian scientists have invented a stationary laser complex which helps determine the properties of semiconductors with the help of light pulses which have a duration of one-thousandth of a second.

Lithuanian physicists put their research to good use. Experimental production workshops attached to the institute fulfil the orders of industrial enterprises, building lasers for cutting, boring, hardening, engraving, metal welding and many other operations.

Crawfish back in the Urals again

Several dozen female crawfish with spawn have been flown by Aeroflot from Vilnius to Chelyabinsk to start the joint experiment of the Chelyabinsk fish specialists and the Institute of Zoology and Parasitology of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences.

Narrow bands of slate have been laid in reservoirs with clear sand. They will serve as separate homes for the crawfish, who do not like intruders.

Temperature regulators create the necessary conditions.

The newcomers are the so-called American signal crawfish

INSTANTANEOUS BRAKING FOR TRAINS

A device designed at the Kursk Magnetic Anomaly research institute makes the train's braking distance almost twice as shorter.

Railway operations involving open-cuts are very specialized. Steep slopes, small-radius turns, large loads on the axles—all these require fast and efficient braking. The conventional systems bring trains to a halt after about 500 to 600 m of rolling.

The Kursk experts have suggested that the train be equipped with an electric pneumatic accelerator which enables the braking distance to be considerably shortened irrespective of load and steepness of the slope. This will facilitate a reduction in total railway track length and an increase in rolling stock turnover.

The villages in which over one-third of the country's population now lives (97 million people) fall short of modern living standards. They are considerably inferior to the city in terms of services, catering and recreational facilities and architectural requirements.

Reconstruction work is now being carried in the villages on an unprecedented large scale and to an unprecedented degree; architectural bureaus are drawing up plans for rebuilding existing settlements and constructing new ones; a powerful industry producing prefabricated construction units has been created; catalogues of designs for modern farm-collectives have been compiled and made available to builders in rural areas. The cottages are comfortable and take account of national traditions as well as of the climatic peculiarities of each area in the country.

The 160,000 million roubles earmarked for improving living conditions in villages are intended to accelerate the social development of rural areas. There are plans, among other things, for a considerable increase in the volume of housing and in the construction of recreational and catering facilities in the countryside. While five million housing units (apartments and one-family houses) were built in rural areas during the previous decade, 1.7 million more are to be built in the current decade ending in 1990. More than two-thirds of the housing programme in rural areas will be achieved by way of direct state and collective farm investment and less than one-third will be paid for by the population.

There is also a major programme for building schools, kindergartens and crèches and for improving catering facilities. Special emphasis is being put on providing convenient transport links between the villages and district centres and towns. It is planned to build about 130 thousand kilometres of highway for this purpose.

The programme for the transformation of Soviet villages is closely connected to state plans for higher living standards in rural areas. As in previous years, farmers' real incomes will grow at a higher rate by comparison to those of industrial workers. This tendency will remain in effect until the incomes of rural inhabitants catch up with those of city dwellers. At the present time there is a 30 per cent difference between the wages of industrial and agricultural workers. It is, however, essential to take into account individual farm earnings, which are enjoyed by virtually every rural family, than the income gap shrinks to 10 per cent. By 1990 it should have completely disappeared.

In the social security sphere this levelling off has already occurred. Similar to industrial workers, farmers and their families receive the same advantages of centralized administration, medical care and pension. They also enjoy the same old-age and disability pensions as workers in industry.

VIEWPOINT

SOCIAL CHANGES ON THE SOVIET FARM

Alexander DEDUL

The Food Programme currently in operation in the USSR is aimed at the further development of productive forces in agriculture and related industries and provides for a wide spectrum of social measures to further improve life in the rural areas. In order to implement these measures the state has allocated 180,000 million roubles for a ten-year period.

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Who caught Maximov?

Maximov immediately felt that there was a big fish on the other end of his line. Yet, he couldn't land it on the ice, as it was too big to go through the hole in which he had been fishing.

He decided to hold on to the fish with one hand and to enlarge the hole with the other. But in his haste, he allowed the big fisherman to catch hold of his hand. The fish locked its jaws and its small sharp teeth bit into Maximov's flesh.

His friends fishing nearby came to his rescue. They quickly enlarged the hole and pulled the fish out. Following which they bandaged the unfortunate Maximov's hand, put some warm clothes on him and gave him a cup of hot tea.

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Narrow bands of slate have been laid in reservoirs with clear sand. They will serve as separate homes for the crawfish, who do not like intruders.

Temperature regulators create the necessary conditions.

The newcomers are the so-called American signal crawfish

named for the bright light spot on their claw. They are much larger than their Ural counterparts, grow faster, and their market value is high.

Crawfish were brought east of the Urals two hundred years ago and populated many rivers and lakes since then. But a sudden outbreak of disease killed virtually all of them. Now they have started to appear again.

The Lithuanian fish specialists help Chelyabinsk fisheries speed up the restoration process and stock the lakes with species which will be more resistant to disease.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

KOLA BELDY



We hear an unusual, long-drawn-out melody, and in our mind's eye we see a doggedly chancing across the tundra with the singer singing an endless song. When the last sound dies down, and the lights go on in the auditorium, the man bowing to the enthusiastic applause is 46-year-old Nenetsian singer, Kola Beldy.

The Nenetsians are a small nationality who live on the banks of the Anadyr River in the Far East. Whereas in 1913 they numbered slightly over three thousand, today they have a population of 11 thousand.

Kola Beldy was born into a hunter and fisherman's family. When he was small, his father died while out hunting, and soon afterwards his mother died too. So Kola grew up in an orphanage.

The future singer's life was not an easy one, and yet he was happy. He served in the Pacific Fleet where he became a member of amateur companies and performed in amateur concerts. At one of these he was spotted by professional musicians who suggested he should join the Pacific Fleet's professional company of singers and dancers.

Even then Kola Beldy's strong voice with its unique timbre and his unusual repertoire of songs brought him success.

The young singer's real debut, however, came at the city Youth and Student Festival held in 1957 in Moscow. Having won a prize at the festival, he began to sing seriously with the famous Soviet singer, Pavel Lissitan.

Since then he has extensively toured the Soviet Union and visited 50 other countries.

Kola Beldy specializes in the songs of the minor nationalities who live in the Far North, Siberia and the Far East, singing them both in the original and in Russian translation.

"My Polar Star" is Kola Beldy's new programme in which he is accompanied by the Nenets (Nenets for laige) folk ensemble. Kola Beldy is very clever at reproducing basic folk elements — unusual musical sounds, imitation of "the sounds of nature" and the peculiar rhythms of folk songs.

Recently, the Melodika recording company in Moscow completed an LP of Kola Beldy singing the songs of nine minor nationalities. And preparations are in hand for two more records. This unique musical anthology will be the only one of its kind in the world.

Soviet television has finished filming a concert programme given by the singer, which is soon to have its first showing.

Igor MIKHAILOV

MYTHS OF THE WORLD

The Sovetskaya Encyclopedia Publishers has come out with a two-volume encyclopedia, "The Myths of the Peoples of the World".

This publication represents one of the first attempts ever to collect, in a systematic and comprehensive form, the myths of the peoples of the world. It also includes mythological ideas and subjects which arose out of folk fantasy and which have been developed by heathen priests, religious thinkers and philosophers.

The encyclopedia has two aims. On the one hand, to provide the reader with reference material to help in the understanding of works of literature and the arts. On the other hand, to satisfy a more profound interest in mythology, folklore and the history of religion. The encyclopedia brings together generalized material on mythological images and subjects as well as on scholarly theories and schools in the study of mythology. Some articles deal with problems which are still causes of dispute in specialized literature.

The compilers try to give the reader concise information on the treatment given to mythological images and subjects in fiction, theatre, music and the visual arts.

The book contains a wealth of colour and black-and-white illustrations: reproductions of paintings on mythological subjects, church frescoes, mosaics, rock paintings and photographs of museum exhibits; give the reader a visual image of this or that mythological personage.

At the Moscow Studio, director Yevgeny Tashkov is shooting a six-part television film based on Dostoyevsky's novel, "A Raw Youth". The main role, that of Arkady, is played by the young actor Andrei Tashkov, the director's son. Other stars in the cast are Natalya Gundareva and Oleg Borisov.

Yevgeny Tashkov (left) during the filming.

ANCIENT MELODIES COME ALIVE

Makom is the ancient music of the Oriental peoples. The republican contests of makom players took place recently at the Tashkent State Conservatoire. More than forty instrumentalists and singers took part, coming from various Uzbek towns and villages.

These tunes that have lived for centuries in people's memories have never been recorded by anyone, the best of them being passed down from generation to generation. The first tape recordings were only made after the October 1917 Socialist Revolution.

Students are now taught to play at the Tashkent Conservatoire and at a number of music colleges and schools.



A still from the film.

BUSINESS

Ladas with right-hand steering for Britain

Contacts and contracts

© Polygraphic offset printing machines will be delivered to the USSR under a contract between V/O Technopromimport and the Indian firm of Optimohar.

© The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Mozambique have signed a protocol on trade for 1983-1985. The protocol provides for a considerable growth in Soviet-Mozambican trade. The Soviet Union will deliver to Mozambique farming machinery, motor-vehicles, tractors, and road-building equipment. Mozambican exports will include non-ferrous metal concentrates, valuable timber, tea, cashew nuts and other items.

Over the past five years, the USSR has exported nearly 90 thousand cars of different makes to Britain. Nearly 200 garages have been opened to service them.

This year deliveries include cars with right-hand steering. Besides, this country also sup-

piles Britain with Niva cross-country vehicles with a four-wheel drive. Like the Lada, the Niva is comfortable, has a nice-looking dashboard, is responsive to the driver and easy to control. Some of the Nivas being sent this year to Britain also have right-hand steering.

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This year Olivier hopes for a significant expansion in bilateral cooperation. Daniel Persouyre, head of the Moscow office of the biggest trading firm in France, told our correspondent.

Among possible future trends in such cooperation, Persouyre mentioned in particular joint operations with Soviet organizations in third countries. In addition, Olivier is prepared, through its offices of which there are over 300 in the world, to promote Soviet goods in the firm's developed markets. Daniel Persouyre stressed that the firm's management is studying other possibilities for the development of bilateral links.

Speaking of the activities of Olivier on the Soviet market, he pointed out that at present the firm is discussing with its Soviet partners a range of projects related to chemistry, petrochemistry and the plastics industry.

After the French specialized "Agroprom-82" exhibition held last fall in Moscow, Soviet organizations showed interest in a series of machines for growing vegetables and other agricultural crops. Olivier is now taking part in discussions for the joint production of such machines in the Soviet Union.

1982 was a fairly successful year for the firm. The past five

V/O Stankomport has sold France over 4,000 Soviet machine tools.

In the photo: a vertical six-metre chuck plate lathe at the Creuzot Loire factory.

FRIENDSHIP AT SEA

The friendship born of the joint struggle by the peoples of the USSR and the USA against fascism during the years of World War II should not be arbitrarily broken. Business cooperation is a reliable way of consolidating such ties.

This was declared by Barry Fisher, leader of a group of American captain-owners of fishing vessels. During the war he served in the American Navy, on the Murmansk run. Fisher was interviewed in Nakhodka where he had arrived for negotiations over further cooperation under the auspices of the joint Soviet-American fishing company.

Hans-Peter Schwarzkopf told our correspondent that as a result of the implementation of the agreement with the Soviet Union,

SOVIET RAIL (SZD) BRINGS ANY TRIP WITHIN YOUR MEANS AND MAKES IT MORE PLEASANT THAN YOU EVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE.

SZD coaches are provided with everything you need to travel in comfort. Cosy compartments, first class service plus traditional Russian hospitality will contribute to your good mood and make your journey a relaxing and agreeable experience.

Every train within the Soviet territory is equipped with a dining-car where you will be served breakfast, lunch and dinner; various hors d'oeuvres, vintage wines, juice, fruit, tobacco and sweets are also available.

Your expenses will be minimal, as rail is the least expensive form of travel.

Organized groups of 10 or more adult passengers are entitled to discounts on the services linking Moscow with Aachen, Hamburg, Bern, Ostend, Hoek van Holland, Paris, Vienna, Rome, Turin, Athens, Istanbul, Stockholm, Oslo, Helsinki, Copenhagen, or Leningrad with Cologne and Helsinki, or Kiev with Paris. Discounts amount to between 25 to 40 per cent of your ticket.

For further information on Soviet sleeping-car services please contact your nearest travel agent or tourist office. Soviet Rail will always be glad to welcome you aboard their trains!



VIETNAM'S MOST UP-TO-DATE PIT

The first stage of the Mong Duong pit, built with Soviet technical assistance, has gone into operation in Vietnam.

The capacity of the first stage is not great — a mere 430,000 tonnes of coal per year. This is the country's most up-to-date mine. We hope that Mong Duong will become a centre for training highly skilled workers, said Nguyen Chan, Minister of Mines and Coal of the SRV.

Today, nearly 90 per cent of the coal in Vietnam is extracted at mines built with Soviet technical assistance. Many of the Vietnamese specialists receive their diplomas at the Moscow Mining Institute, while foremen undergo training at Soviet coalmines. Atuong, there is a vocational school built and run with the assistance of the Soviet Union.

Vietnam intends to raise the output of coal from 6.2 million tonnes in 1982 to 6.5 million in the current year, and to bring it up to 8.5 million tonnes in 1985.

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